

## MINUTES OF THE NORTH HAVEN CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MEETING 2/27/08

Present: Hugh Davis, Chairman, Mary Mahon, Shelley Wheeler-Carreiero, Letty McPhedran, Diantha Thorpe, Paul Colella, Patricia Brown, Nick Gill, Maurice Libson, Erin MacDonnell

With many new members present, Hugh explained the clean energy policy and announced North Haven has 110 sign ups for clean energy. But the town must declare 5% of the town budget (including the BOE) energy cost to come from clean energy before we get the free solar panels. North Haven has a \$5,000 grant to use to distribute mini-grants to groups who will help get more sign ups. It was suggested we could pay out incentive money for every sign-up a group completes. There should be a time period (perhaps three months) with a clear termination date for each mini-grant.

Diantha is working on updating the list of North Haven non-profit businesses. She says current lists are available on the website [taxexempt.com](http://taxexempt.com)

Mary suggested going door to door so people could access their UI bills for the numbers needed on the forms. She pointed out two groups to help: NHHS students and confirmation classes at the local Catholic churches who all do community service. We are all to think of groups we can approach. Mary will e-mail us the letter (for revisions) to be sent out about the grant applications.

Bethany has the largest percent of sign ups and we should contact their clean energy leaders for ideas. They put a sign up table at the election polls, giving out CFLs for every sign up.

NHHS Project Green members came with their advisor Anthony Giordano. Their leader, Jackie Ladutko, told us they are working on the recycling effort at NHHS. They have bins in the classrooms for paper and in the cafeteria for glass and cans. Hugh urged the group to apply for a mini-grant to go door to door to get sign ups. Paul suggested Project Green could get a business to sponsor them. Diantha thought Robin Wilson of the Chamber of Commerce could help with that. Nick felt more effort on who we are and what our goals are is needed before going door to door.

- Many opportunities for getting out information and getting sign-ups were suggested: Earth Day (April 22) for an event. Would the B-Willy Band help?
- Concerts on the Green
- Memorial Day Parade
- Arbor Day Planting
- Writing regular articles for local newspapers: Judith Allen who just left Citizen might write more
- A front page tally or thermometer of sign-ups for local papers
- Maurice suggested a Booster Club with young folks
- Shelley thought we should provide a speakers bureau. Colin Bennett might train us to present
- Dorie is compiling a list of ways to save energy while saving money. It was agreed to hand this list out to anyone who says it is too expensive to sign up.

Hugh Davis, Chairman, urged members to assess their strengths and be able to say how each member can contribute to our goals. Also Hugh asked us to decide where we'd like solar panels to go so our Task Force can make a suggestion to the town. Shelley suggested organizing ourselves into committees and subcommittees for accomplishing specific tasks.

Next meeting of the Task Force will be Monday March 10, 2008 at 7PM at the Recreation Center

Respectfully Submitted, Letty McPhedran